AFL WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

Whole No. 2085 — Tuesday, March 27, 1951 — Vol. 41, No. 13

Advisers Tell Truman Strong Price Law Needed

UNION INDUSTRIES SHOW SITE.—Chicago.—Soldier Field will be site May 18-26 of AFL Union Industries Show, greatest exhibition of labor-management cooperation on earth. Plan now for a trip to see this mammoth show of what AFL union members make for the world.

Chicago Unionists Want 1 Million Visitors at AFL Show May 18-26

By DAN SMYTH
Chicago Correspondent AFL News Service

Chicago.—The 1951 Union Industries show, opening May 18 at Soldier Field, will be the biggest of all time, says William A. Lee, president of the Chicago Federation of Labor, the host union.

"We aim to break all records," said Mr. Lee. He expects at least a million visitors during the show's 9-day run.

In the great stadium where Gene Tunney rose after a count of 14 to retain his heavyweight championship of the world there will be seats for 100,000 spectators at nightly pageantry and outdoor displays.

Under the stands will be a mile of exhibition booths showing the skills and products of American labor—tacks, trailers, pottery, cakes, cigars, clothing, furniture, radios, wallpaper, tobacco, candy, beer—the works.

The Chicago Building Trades Council has reserved the entire east exhibit hall for displays of the bricklaying, plumbing, steamfitting, carpentry, electricity, plastering, painting and other construction skills.

In another section, a complete laundry will be running (wash your shirt while you wait if you don't mind standing around without it). The Stove Mounters will give away 100 stoves. The Bakers will give away bread, cakes and biscuits, made before your eyes.

Visitors may enter free contests and win possibly a pound of strictly union-made nails or a $1,000 gold-trimmed bicycle.

Cooperation between labor and management in the mobilization effort will be stressed. Gen. George C. Marshall, U. S. Secretary of Defense, has arranged for a display of some of the weapons now being used in Korea. The Army, Navy and Air Forces all will have their own displays.

Peter J. Bockstahler, president of the Chicago Trades Union Label League, said the league's delegates are ready to pour it on for the big show.

Committees will help distribute tickets, furnish speakers at local union rallies and help out at Soldier Field, he said. The National Tea Co. has asked for 500,000 tickets. Laundry workers plan to put tickets into each laundry bundle.

"We do things on the grand scale around here," said Bockstahler.

TO HONOR TOBIN

New York.—Secretary of Labor Maurice J. Tobin will be guest of honor at a dinner May 9 given by the National Labor Council of the City of Hope National Medical Center.

CHURCHES STUDY LABOR

Newark, N. J.—The Presbyterian and Episcopalian churches joined with the Rutgers University Institute of Management and Labor to provide during April a series of 4 forums on labor-management relations.

AFL BACKS RED CROSS.—Washington.—AFL Secretary-Treasurer George Meany (right), Secretary of Labor Maurice J. Tobin and National Red Cross President E. Roland Harriman (left) emphasizing theme of current Red Cross drive and the necessity of building up civilian defense services. Mr. Meany and Secretary Tobin, both members of the Red Cross Board of Governors, reported union members are giving their full support to all Red Cross services.

Living Costs Hit New Peak

Washington.—Retail prices of goods and services bought by moderate-income urban families rose 1.3 percent between January and February.

The U. S. Labor Department's Bureau of Labor Statistics reported that prices of all major groups of commodities and services increased during the month with the biggest increase, 1.8 percent, reported for food and apparel prices.

The housefurnishings index rose 1.1 percent, rents 1.1 percent, miscellaneous goods and services 0.7 percent, fuel and electricity 0.4 percent.

Congress to Probe Defense Program; Call Wilson

Washington.—The House-Senate economic controls "watchdog" committee will begin an investigation of the mobilization program April 4.

Chairman Burnet Maybank of South Carolina said the first witness will be Defense Mobilization Administrator Charles E. Wilson.

He said the committee will explore "hasty judgment" and "inefficiency" in many phases of the mobilization program.

Senator Maybank said the committee will shoot especially at "apparent abuses" of tax amortization provisions in the Defense Production Act.

Rent Bill Signed But Rents Go Up!

Newark, N. J.—The area rent advisory board voted over AFL members' opposition to grant a 20 percent increase in rents to 600,000 landlords in 9 northeastern New Jersey counties.

The action came almost simultaneously with President Truman's signing of the 90-day extension—to June 30—of the weak federal rent control bill.

Louis P. Marciante, New Jersey State AFL president, wired Housing Expediter Tighe E. Woods and AFL President William Green to oppose and disapprove the hike "because it may be used as standard policy for other parts of the country."

He said the rent increase was voted without a public hearing and at a closed meeting of the rent advisory board.

Headlines in Daily Newspapers Back Up United Labor's Charges That Defense Setup Brings Nationwide Chaos

Washington.—Headlines in the daily newspapers back up in full the United Labor Policy Committee charges that the Defense Mobilization program as presently run has brought nationwide chaos.

As a change from statements of the United Labor Committee, the story is unfolded by quotations from newspapers which generally are minimizing or blacking out organized labor's fight for a workable mobilization setup.

"President Truman was warned by a top adviser that it will be impossible to control wages effectively until the government takes strong steps to curb rising prices and profits."—James Y. Newton, Washington, D. C., Star March 25.

"In some sources it was said that the entire stabilization program was in peril of collapse; the situation calls for drastic measures, they said."—Joseph A. Loftus, New York Times, March 25.

"Cost of Living Rises 1.3 Pct. to Record High."—Headline The Chicago Tribune, March 24.

"The government announced that the cost of living jumped 1.3 percent between Jan. 15 and Feb. 15 to another all-time high. The increase brought retail price levels to 8 percent above those immediately before the Korean war started in June of last year and to 9.5 percent above a year ago. The government imposed its wage-price freeze Jan. 26. The rise means that under a contract negotiated March 1 at the White House, and praised by President Truman himself, 1,000,000 railroad shop and terminal workers are to get a 6-cents-an-hour pay raise which would pierce the government's own 10 percent ceiling on pay increases."—Raymond J. Blair, New York Herald-Tribune, March 24.

". . . But Johnston Is Opposed."—Wall Street Journal, March 24.

"Enforcement of government controls during the present emergency has been much more gentle than the policy followed during World War II," a survey by the Journal of Commerce indicates. The policy of leniency has been carried to the point where some businessmen believe that noncompliance is increasing rapidly, particularly in the materials controls issued by the National Production Authority and in the price controls issued by the Office of Price Stabilization. Thus far, 5 months after the controls began to be issued in Washington, prosecution is virtually nil."—Sidney Fish, New York Journal of Commerce, March 26.

"The Truman Administration will wind up the current fiscal year with a balanced budget, the third such fiscal curiosity in 21 years."—Albert Clark, Wall Street Journal, March 24.

"May Be Brake on Tax Hikes."—Headline Wall Street Journal, March 24.

"The National Production Authority announced a 25 percent cut in deliveries of tires and tubes for new passenger cars effective April 1."—The Washington Post, March 24.

"U. S. Output Near Level of World War II."—Headline New York Herald-Tribune, March 25.

Pennsylvania Seeks To Broaden Base

York, Pa.—The Pennsylvania Federation of Labor brought its 49th annual convention to this city of the third class "in order that the citizens of those communities may have an opportunity to see our movement in action and have a better understanding of its objectives."

This was the first time in the history of the federation that its legislative convention was held in a Pennsylvania city other than the capital city of Harrisburg. There are almost 50 cities of the third class in Pennsylvania, roughly those under 150,000 population.

Hold on to your U. S. Savings bonds—buy more.

LABOR UNITED.—Washington.—Leaders of more than 15 million organized American workers look to that membership to work unitedly for a new Defense Production Act by June 30 and a fair deal for all Americans in Defense Mobilization of the country. L. to r., AFL President William Green, CIO President Philip Murray, AFL Secretary-Treasurer George Meany and CIO Vice President Walter Reuther.

WEST COAST ON THE BALL.—Washington.—Leaders in the fight in California against exorbitant rents being gouged from soldiers, their families and plain citizens in the Golden State booming with defense factories and military establishments. L. to r., Thomas L. Pitts, Los Angeles, president California State Federation; C. J. Haggerty, San Francisco, secretary-treasurer; President Richard J. Gray of the AFL Building Trades Department, and William J. Bassett, secretary Los Angeles County Central Labor Council.

Green Urges Fight For All The People

Washington.—AFL President William Green presented to a meeting of AFL state and local central bodies a peoples' program for an effective, workable and fair Defense Mobilization Program.

He urged AFL officials and members in every locality in the nation to carry out efforts in behalf of this program vigorously. He said:

"The fight must be made on two fronts. It is a fight both against the policies that have been adopted by those directing the defense program, and it is equally a fight against policies which have been adopted by the Congress of the United States. We must devote our energies to both of these fights.

"First of all, we need equity and fairness in the basic laws which Congress passes to govern the defense program. This means the following:

"1. The new Defense Production Act which must be passed by June 30, 1951, must include the following changes:

"(a) Effective power to control prices of foods using if necessary the arrangements that were utilized successfully during World War II.

"(b) An effective, positive rent control section controlling rents on all housing accommodations that need it to replace the present 'rent decontrol' law.

"(c) Other new provisions strengthening the authority of the Director of Price Stabilization and making possible an effective, workable price control program.

"2. An equitable tax program to provide the revenue needed to finance the defense program by closing existing tax loopholes and by utilizing the principle of ability to pay in taxing income, rather than any sales or excise taxes which fall heaviest on those least able to pay.

"3. A defense housing law which will provide housing for defense workers at rents they can afford to pay.

"At the same time, we must make our influence felt on those who are currently in charge of the defense program. We must demand that they take the following action:

"1. Give to labor a genuine voice in the defense program equal to Big Business or any other economic group in our society.

"2. Establish a new Wage Stabilization Board that will have authority to handle all labor disputes affecting the defense effort and that will administer a genuinely equitable wage stabilization program.

"3. Use all available authority to administer the price control program by emphasizing dollar and cents ceiling prices understandable and available to all consumers.

"4. Work out effective procedures for handling problems of manpower that will utilize voluntary efforts of labor and management in both the establishment of policies and the administration of the program.

"This is a fair and effective program which we urge upon the Administration. It can and must be put into effect if the people of the country demonstrate that this is their program.

"I am therefore asking that you return to your localities prepared to carry out vigorously and effectively the program which has been here set forth.

Here's What You Can Do to Help Bring Down Prices, Beat Inflation

Washington.—The United Labor Conference adopted this program for action:

The need for an effective anti-inflation program dealing with prices, rents and taxes is obvious to all the American people.

Action must be undertaken by the Administration and by Congress to protect every American and to safeguard the defense program itself.

Action will be taken if the American people make their voice heard in unmistakable terms.

To carry out the declaration of principles adopted here today, we agree:

1. To enlist cooperation in support of this anti-inflation program from all community organizations which support our democratic institutions and are devoted to the anti-totalitarian objectives of America's defense program.

2. To promote public meetings, radio and television programs, speeches before community groups and other appropriate means of alerting every citizen to the need for improved defense mobilization and anti-inflation policies.

3. To forward letters, telegrams, petitions and memorials to President Truman and members of Congress in support of the principle of equal sacrifice and fair play in the mobilization program. Our first objective is the improvement of the Defense Production Act.

4. To help establish local consumer committees through which the people may be fully advised of the developments in Washington, violations of price regulations may be publicized, and to cooperate with public-spirited merchants for local anti-inflation programs.

5. To encourage authorized delegations from labor and other groups to seek appointments with senators and congressmen during the forthcoming Easter recess to set forth the problems of the consumer.

6. To secure the widest publicity through the labor press and, if necessary, through the purchase of local radio time and newspaper space, for the voting record of senators and congressmen on major bills affecting the fight against inflation and for a better defense mobilization program.

To this program of action, we pledge our united effort.

Home Front Drive For New Defense Act Underway

Washington.—United Labor began a home front crusade for a new Defense Production Act that will really control the cost of living, clamp on tight rent controls and provide for a workable wage stabilization and disputes plan.

The drive was set off with a 2-day conference of state and city central representatives of the AFL, CIO, Machinists and railroad brotherhoods.

The 1,000 delegates heard detailed reports on the failure of Defense Mobilization Czar Charles E. Wilson to establish a program that equips the country to do the task it faces in defeating worldwide Communist aggression while keeping this nation strong and indestructible.

The main effort of labor to win an effective program was recounted by AFL President William Green, Secretary-Treasurer George Meany, Vice Presidents George M. Harrison and Dan W. Tracy, Machinists President Al J. Hayes, CIO President Philip Murray, Secretary-Treasurer James B. Carey, Vice President Walter Reuther, and President George E. Leighty of the Railway Labor Executives Association.

Acting upon their reports, the United Labor Conference adopted a declaration of principles and program of action for obtaining a fair deal for all Americans.

The program for action calls for enlisting the aid and cooperation of every community group and all individuals who are interested in halting the runaway cost of living, in providing adequate housing at rents workers can afford to pay, in an equal distribution of the tax burden and participation of all the people—not just big business—in the operation and administration of a national program for defense.

The Declaration of Principles said: "We are shocked by the cruel disregard being shown for the interests of every-day American families. We are shocked by the privilege and favoritism bestowed upon a single group."

The main objects are:

1. Enactment by June 30 of a new Defense Production Act to serve as the basis for a revised defense program.

2. An honest price control with dollar-and-cents ceilings, enforceable, and clear enough so that any housewife shopping for food can have confidence that she is not being overcharged.

3. An equitable wage stabilization and disputes plan.

4. Defense housing at reasonable rents.

5. A tax plan to finance the defense program on a pay-as-you-go basis based on equality of sacrifice by all groups.

6. Keep civilian manpower free.

7. Participation of labor, farmers, small business and independent consumer groups be given full representation.

"We submit this as a just program for the mobilization of a free nation," the declaration said. "This is not the fight for labor alone—this is a struggle of all the American people."

Support the Red Cross Fund Drive generously!

AFL State and Regional Officials Spearhead New Defense Act Drive

Washington.—More than 300 officials of American Federation of Labor state and city central organizations attended the 2-day meeting of the United Labor Conference on the failures of the Defense Mobilization Administration under Charles E. Wilson.

Returning to their homes, this group is spearheading the drive of United Labor to obtain a new strong workable Defense Production Act to replace the one which will expire on June 30.

AFL President William Green told them that "the fight must be made on 2 fronts."

"It is a fight both against the policies that have been adopted by those directing the defense program, and it is equally a fight against policies which have been adopted by the Congress of the United States," he said. "We must devote our energies to both of these fights."

Mr. Green reviewed the exhaustive patient fight by the American Federation of Labor beginning an long ago as August 1950 and the United Labor Policy Committee since last December to get a fair break for the people of America in the Defense Mobilization program.

Various details of the efforts here in Washington were described by AFL Secretary-Treasurer George Meany, Vice Presidents George M. Harrison and Dan W. Tracy, President Al J. Hayes of the Machinists and Elmer E. Walker, Machinist vice president who also served as a labor member of the Wage Stabilization Board, and others.

All of them emphasized that the help of every rank and file member of all the unions will be required to mobilize all of the people—union and nonunion members, housewives, consumers, and small business men to the great wrongs being done them by the Big Business mobilization program.

Harrison Predicts Wilson-Johnston Will Make Nation 'Bunch of Serfs'

Washington.—AFL Vice President George M. Harrison predicted that "we'll all be a bunch of regimented serfs" if the defense mobilization policies of Mobilization Administrator Charles E. Wilson and Economic Stabilizer Eric Johnston continue for the duration of the emergency.

Mr. Harrison is president of the AFL Brotherhood of Railway and Steamship Clerks and served briefly as special assistant to Mr. Johnston in an effort to get the national mobilization program on a sound basis. He resigned with other top representatives of the United Labor Policy Committee on March 2 in protest against Big Business control of the whole setup.

"Our troubles began when Congress passed the Defense Mobilization Act of 1950," Mr. Harrison told the meeting of AFL state and city central bodies representatives here March 20.

He told of the outrageous price control system which permits business men to keep their own records.

He said 1 million railroad workers, who haven't had an increase since October 1948, are being denied their wage raise negotiated at the White House in February because it would pierce the unjust 10 percent ceiling imposed by industry and public members of the Wage Stabilization Board on Feb. 15.

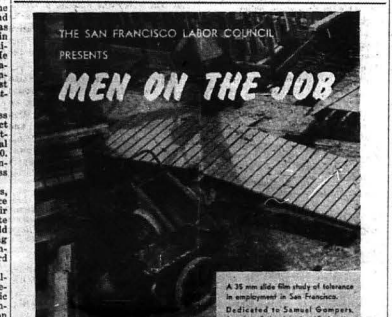
Mr. Harrison revealed that Mr. Wilson, 64, is receiving his annual retirement pension from General Electric Co. just as though he had served until he was 65, and Mr. Johnston, on leave from the presidency of the Motion Picture Association, is drawing his $125,000 annual salary while holding his government position.

"In the Office of Price Stabilization, every one of the offices is headed by men from industry," Mr. Harrison said.

"My god! What are we coming to in this country? We have fought business organizations set up in restraint of trade, we have fought trusts and monopolies. Then we turn over to Big Business the whole works of defense mobilization.

"Are we going to tolerate such a situation? It might be 20 years until we no longer have a fear of aggression. In that time under present policies we'll certainly be a bunch of regimented serfs.

"The defense mobilization machinery is the most socially indefensible, economically unworkable and politically unwise program that I ever heard of. I'm agin it."


THE SAN FRANCISCO LABOR COUNCIL
PRESENTS
MEN ON THE JOB
A 35 mm slide film study of tolerance in employment in San Francisco.
Dedicated to Samuel Gompers, founder of the American Federation of Labor.
Narration by Keenan Wynn of the Screen Actors Guild, AFL.
Produced with the cooperation and technical assistance of the University of California.
Available for showing through George M. Adams, Secretary, San Francisco Labor Council, 2940 - 16th Street, San Francisco, California.

WEST COAST FIGHTS INTOLERANCE.—San Francisco.—Cover of pamphlet describing San Francisco Labor Council's slide film, "Men On the Job," showing how negro and white, Chinese and Mexican, Filipino and others work together side-by-side throughout the San Francisco labor movement in brotherhood.

Mississippi Pledges All Out War Aid

Jackson, Miss.—The Mississippi Federation of Labor has pledged "harmony in all-out production for the war effort."

At a statewide conference here, delegates from 90 international unions also approved the appointment of a committee to work with University of Mississippi officials in setting up a series of labor-management extension courses in the state.

Willie Sims of Hattiesburg, president Mississippi Federation, said the proposed extension courses would cover all the problems of labor, public relations and contract and wage issues.

Ask U.S. Name Gompers Square

Washington.—The Columbia Typographical Union No. 101 voted to ask Congress to name the park where Samuel Gompers' statue stands in this city "Gompers Square."

The Washington Central Labor Union concurred in the resolution and the necessary steps are being taken.

Southwest for the idea was given by John Herling, editor Herling's Labor Letter, in a letter to the editor of the Washington, D. C., Evening Star which published a photo of the statue of the founder and first president of the AFL.

The Columbia Typographical Union resolution said that Samuel Gompers is recognized as the greatest leader of labor the world has ever known and that his services to working people deserve a permanent place in the history of our country.

It urged that the park at Massachusetts Avenue and Tenth Street Northwest, be designated "Gompers Square."

Copies of the resolution were sent to AFL President William Green, President Truman, chairmen of Senate and House District committees.

Hayes Forecasts Wilson's Program 'Going on Rocks' as Big Failure

Washington.—President Al J. Hayes of the International Association of Machinists said United Labor is convinced that the Defense Mobilization program of Charles E. Wilson "is going on the rocks; it cannot mobilize this country to do the task this country faces."

"If we stay united, the mobilization agencies can't use one branch of labor against another as they did in the last war and as they've tried to do already this time," he told the greater Seattle meeting of AFL state and central body representatives.

"We need support, not only the rank and file of our own members, but of the other plain people of your communities," Mr. Hayes said. "This is not a fight of organized labor alone but of all the people.

"Except for the labor press and a few stories in the daily press, the stories and radio reports have been slanted against labor.

"If we were given everything we asked, the advantage would still be on the side of industry."

Meany Says Truman Made Wilson More Powerful Than President

Washington.—AFL Secretary-Treasurer George Meany said that President Truman's executive order handing over defense mobilization powers to Charles E. Wilson "makes him more powerful than the President."

"The President cannot influence Mr. Wilson's policies," Mr. Meany said. "He can fire him. He can take back the powers given him. But so long as that executive order stands he cannot do anything about Mr. Wilson's policies."

He said the way Mr. Wilson grabbed manpower control from a member of the cabinet, Secretary of Labor Maurice J. Tobin, to whom President Truman had assigned the authority, was proof of the point.

"If ever I met a man who thinks in terms of labor as a commodity this man Wilson is he," Mr. Meany said. "We're up against a state of mind and we've got to change it.

"It isn't too bad if we fight. And this is more than just a fight with Mr. Wilson. It's a fight with Congress as well. Your job is to go back and let your people know that it is not just wages, but that it is prices, rents, taxes, housing and everything that goes into mobilization."

Mr. Meany said industry wants a Wage Stabilization Board that will merely make rules and "let the policeman on the beat enforce them, the policeman being the Taft-Hartley law and the courts."

"We've got to let the Administration know that you can't mobilize the resources of this country and disregard the human element which is the major resource."

United Labor's Declaration of Principles

(Adopted, Washington, D. C., March 21, 1951)

We are Americans and proud of it.

Our forefathers came to America seeking liberty, justice and equality. Our fathers fought for those ideals on the battlefields, on the farms and in the shops and factories.

We are proud of our nation's history and proud of the part trade unions have played in that history. We are mindful of the responsibilities which we share as citizens in a free nation.

We are met here today as free and independent Americans, free of government dictation, and independent of political party. We are committed only to the defense of America and the basic American principles of liberty, justice and equality.

Our nation faces a grave national emergency. The peace of the world is balanced on a razor's edge. Our government, in the interest of preserving peace, is seeking to mobilize the men and the machines of our country for a great defense force adequate to any challenge. To this effort we have pledged our wholehearted support.

Our principles are clear:

We believe that all of our nation's resources must be mobilized for the defense of peace and freedom now threatened by communist aggression. We can make no compromise with communism or any other dictatorial force.

To us in the labor movement, fighting communism is not a matter simply of writing editorials, issuing memoranda or making speeches. We have been engaged in fighting totalitarianism for many long years—in shops, factories, mills, mines and the political arena.

We believe that our nation must join with freedom-loving peoples of the world in common defense of human rights and human decency.

We believe that the first objective in the struggle for a free world is the preservation of freedom at home and the development of a defense program fair to every group. We ask no special privilege for labor. We believe that every group in our country must bear its fair share of the burden of sacrifice if freedom is to prevail.

As citizens of a great and free nation, we have both the right and the duty to raise our voice in united protest when we believe our government is departing from the historic principles which made it strong and free.

As the defense mobilization program has unfolded, we have come to the inescapable conclusion that the democratic principle of equality of sacrifice has been abandoned by the Congress and by those charged with the administration of the mobilization program.

We are shocked by the cruel disregard being shown for the interests of every-day American families. We are shocked by the privilege and favoritism bestowed upon a single group.

This special privilege is apparent for all to see in the ineffective price control program, in the tight wage freeze, in credit controls, in the deterioration of rent control, in the misdirection of civilian manpower authority.

We the representatives of a united American labor movement protest the special privilege being granted to the wealthy, to big business, to greedy profiteers.

To single out any group for special privilege weakens and disrupts the democratic unity from which our nation gets its strength.

We call upon our government to live up to its pledge of *equality of sacrifice* as the guiding principle for the entire mobilization and stabilization effort.

We insist that equality of representation be accorded to the major groups in our economy both in the making of policy and in the administering of policy. In no other way can the principle of equality of sacrifice be safeguarded.

We urge that an effective stabilization program be established, based upon these points:

1. Defense Production Act

Primary responsibility for the basic law of our entire mobilization effort rests with Congress.

The present Defense Production Act, adopted by Congress last year, expires on June 30. It contains fatal weaknesses and built-in special privileges. Yet, it provides the insecure foundation for our whole defense stabilization program, including the interim price and wage control system now in force.

Congress must proceed immediately to the consideration of a new Defense Production Act. It must eliminate dangerous defects in the existing law. It must incorporate in the new law a clear guarantee that equality of sacrifice shall be the controlling principle of the defense program.

It is the duty of Congress to adopt a new law in the national interest and not for special interests.

It is the duty of the administration to exert more constructive and aggressive leadership in the drive for enactment of a new and better law.

It is our duty, the duty of the American people, to notify Congress in clear and unmistakable terms that we insist on an honest and effective law to serve as the basis for a revised defense program.

There is little time left to act. Before June 30 when the Defense Production Act expires, the American people must make their voice heard and respected by their elected representatives in Congress.

2. Price Controls

The price orders issued by the Office of Price Stabilization have been far weaker than even the defective Defense Production Act permits. They represent a fraud and a deception of the public. Instead of controlling prices and rolling back living costs to reasonable and justifiable levels, the Office of Price Stabilization has approved margins of profit which admittedly will result in even higher prices.

This victimization of the people must be ended under the new Defense Production Act. The law must deny to anyone in our economy a license to profiteer out of the national emergency.

The law should provide for real price control—for dollar-and-cents price ceilings, honest enough to be enforceable, clear enough so that any housewife, shopping for her family, can have confidence that she is not being overcharged.

Food prices can and should be held down, and farmers can be assured fair returns, under the parity system, if profiteering is prevented.

3. Wage Stabilization

Any system that freezes wages and salaries before it controls the cost of living is a system of oppression, not stabilization.

An equitable system of wage stabilization can only be made effective when living costs are actually controlled.

The purposes of any wage program in a national emergency are both to stabilize the economy and to reduce industrial strife to a minimum. Such a program must obviously include broad and flexible provisions for the settlement of disputes arising during the emergency period.

The wage program can and should be flexible enough to permit justice and equity to be done to the nation's wage earners. It must honor all existing collective bargaining agreements, protect basic living standards, allow for improvements in keeping with technological progress, and permit adjustments to correct hardships, inequities and substandard wage rates.

We urge these principles as indispensable to any wage policy.

Since the Defense Production Act expires on June 30, any wage stabilization policy now adopted must therefore be regarded as temporary. Labor cannot be committed beyond that date on any wage formula until we know what the new law provides.

4. Housing and Rent Controls

Congress has failed the people on housing programs and rent control. Here again the administration has not fought hard enough to protect the public interest.

With acute housing shortages still existing, tight rent controls must be enacted for the duration of the national emergency. The government cannot evade its responsibility for making certain that defense housing is available at reasonable rents for workers moving to defense production centers.

5. Taxes

The heavy costs of the defense program can and should be financed on a pay-as-you-go basis, insofar as possible.

Labor accepts its fair share of this unavoidable burden, as do the American people generally.

But we are forced to protest against the special consideration accorded to wealthy individuals and to big business under the tax laws adopted by Congress and under the new legislation proposed by the Treasury Department.

Our tax laws must be made to conform with the historic American principle that taxes should be levied in accordance with the ability to pay. Standards of luxury should be lowered before the American standard of living is undermined. Record-breaking corporation profits and high-bracket personal incomes are not yet taxed high enough. Gaping loopholes in the tax laws through which wealthy individuals and corporations escape their just share of the tax burdens must be plugged.

We reject a federal sales tax and proposed increases in excise taxes, because these taxes fall heaviest on those least able to pay.

6. Civilian Manpower

American history has proven that free men outproduce conscript labor.

Civilian manpower problems can and should be solved by voluntary methods, as they were in World War II.

Civilian manpower policies and administration can and should be entrusted to responsible representatives of management and labor on both national and local levels.

Any system which conscripts citizens to work in industry is no longer free.

7. Participation

From top to bottom, the defense program has been staffed by men drawn from executive positions in big business. They cannot divorce themselves from their past experience and associations. Their policies in the government service clearly reflect their one-sided background.

If permitted to continue, these policies will wreck the defense program.

In order to attain maximum results and to enlist the utmost cooperation of all the American people, we must have democratic participation in the defense program.

Labor, the farmers, small business and independent consumer groups must be given full representation on all mobilization and stabilization agencies—in the policy-making and administrative levels. By so doing, the government can inspire renewed public confidence and public support of controls which otherwise will be hard to take.

* * *

We submit this as a just program for the mobilization of a free nation.

This is not the fight for labor alone—this is the struggle of all the American people.

To win it, we call on every decent, fair-minded American to join forces with us in demanding equal sacrifice of all groups in our defense mobilization effort.

We invite every civic and consumer group to unite with organized labor in every community to make the protest of free men heard in Washington—in the Congress and in the defense mobilization agencies.

United, the plain people of America are mightier than any group of profiteers or politicians.

This country belongs to the people who have fought for it and worked for it.

Let us act now—all who believe in the sacred American principles of liberty, justice and equality.

Urges More Women In Union Positions

New York.—Mark Starr, education director AFL International Ladies Garment Workers Union, told the Cooper Union Forum that trade unions should make specific attempts to upgrade women in unions' administrative posts and to train them for administrative positions.

Pointing out that there are now 3 times as many women gainfully employed as in 1900, Dr. Starr said:

"The present total of 19 million is not far short of the 20.5 million employed in World War II. Undoubtedly the increased demand for labor power in current defensive war preparations will strengthen the trend to employ more women in industry.

"The average age of the employed woman is now 36, and more married than single women are to be found in industry. Some 4 million working mothers have children under 18 years of age. One-quarter of the women employed are in clerical occupations. Semi-skilled factory work and the service industries come next in the proportion of women employed."

To meet the situation, Dr. Starr suggested that day care centers and nursery school programs would be necessary for children whose parents are working.

"An increase in planned parenthood and the provision of family allowances are probably the best assistance upon equal pay for equal work would be necessary by the trade unions to prevent the undermining of labor's hard-won living standards.

"Greater organization in clerical occupations and service industries and among women workers generally is necessary. Trade unions should make specific attempts to upgrade women in unions' administrative posts and to train them for administrative positions."

ASK AGED BILL

Trenton, N. J.—The New Jersey State Federation of Labor asked the state assembly to enact legislation which would prohibit discrimination in employment because of the age of an applicant.

Massachusetts has already passed such a measure, the AFL said.

"New Jersey also should be among the foremost to protect our older citizens against the unfortunate practice of throwing perfectly competent and able workers into the discard, solely because of their age," said Peter J. Murphy, secretary-treasurer New Jersey AFL.

TRIES TO CHISEL

Washington.—The negotiating committee representing the employees in the Government Printing Office reports that the Public Printer of the U. S. for the first time in history is insisting that the printers and pressmen employed in the GPO work for less than the Washington scale.

He has made what he terms his final offer to the printers of $2.51 per hour—5 cents below the union scale—and $2.45 per hour to pressmen—7 cents below the union scale.

FORIDA MACHINISTS ATTEND.—Washington.—Left, W. C. Molesworth, representing Miami, Fla., Central Labor Union, and, right, Ed Chambers, general chairman District 100, both members International Association of Machinists, chat with Miss Dorothy Dowell of the IAM headquarters educational staff on the job to be done back home to arouse all Americans to the mess made of Defense Mobilization.

EXPLAINS WHY LABOR FIGHTS.—Washington.—AFL President William Green explains to group of fellow Ohioans representing local AFL affiliates why United Labor is fighting for a complete new fair deal in the Defense Mobilization program. L. to r., Jack Burns, president Cleveland Federation of Labor; Jack Hurst, president Cincinnati Central Labor Union; Clayton R. Lee, Cleveland, secretary-treasurer Ohio State Conference International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers; Frank Fischer, president Toledo Central Labor Union.

REPRESENT NEW YORKERS.—Washington.—Mobilizing grass roots Americans in the nation's biggest city and state is the job of New Yorkers. At the AFL conference on the failures of the Defense Mobilization program were, l. to r., Assistant Secretary of Labor Ralph Wright, AFL Director of Organization Harry O'Reilly, William Collins, New York regional director AFL, and James C. Quinn, secretary-treasurer Greater New York Central Trades and Labor Council.

TEAMSTERS IN THE VANGUARD.—Washington.—Representatives of the Teamsters Union across the nation are in the vanguard of the fight against inflation and for an effective mobilization program. Here at the Washington conference on getting a better Defense Production Act are, l. to r., Wendell Phillips, San Francisco, secretary Bakery Wagon Drivers Local 484; Frank Tobin, Washington representative of the international union; I. C. Welsford, secretary Norfolk, Va., Teamsters Local 822 and secretary Virginia State Federation of Labor, and J. Albert Woll, general counsel for the AFL and Teamsters Union.

GIVE FACTS ON PRICE STEAL.—Washington.—AFL Secretary-Treasurer George Meany and Vice President George M. Harrison compare notes on the "legalized robbery" price control now being practiced in the name of the Government of the United States against the American people. Both criticized the system at grass roots labor conferences.

Washington.—Soviet satellite countries have massed 600,000 troops ready for attack across Yugoslavia's border while others are massed on Western Germany's border—two threats this spring to world peace.
—AFL Labor's Monthly Survey.

Rockefeller Board Backs Free Unions In Under-Developed Areas of World

By LEWIS G. HINES
AFL Special Representative and Member International Development Advisory Board headed by Nelson A. Rockefeller.

Washington. — The International Development Advisory Board has made its report to President Truman.

The task before the board, which was appointed Nov. 24, 1950, was to implement objectives set forth by President Truman in his inaugural address of Jan. 20, 1949, and the declaration of Congress in the Act for International Development, commonly referred to as Poin; Four.

In its report, the board pointed out that there were a total of one billion, 750 million persons living in the under-developed areas of the world. This represents a little less than half of the total population of the world.

The need for a program in the under-developed areas met with a full realization on the part of the board, and its recommendations were based on the need for immediate and drastic measures to meet the menace of hunger and forlorn hope which make these people an easy prey to the danger of communist totalitarianism.

The report, which is entitled "Partners in Progress," points out that this is not a give-away program, but encompasses the cooperation of the free countries of the world, as well as those nations in the under-developed areas. The report provides for technical aid, including assistance and development in health, education and agricultural standards. Private capital is encouraged to invest in the under-developed areas and much strategic material can be produced to meet our needs at the present time.

Labor standards are set forth in the report, which states in part:

"The United States was built upon faith, more specifically, upon faith in people, in their ability to govern themselves and in their capacity to advance their common interest through their own labors. It must remain our aim continuously to strengthen human freedom and the inherent dignity of men throughout the world. In offering to work in partnership with all who seek to forward this freedom, there can be no thought of imposing our institutions upon other peoples.

"The concept of freedom is and always has been a liberating one, a revolutionary idea that rejects the inevitability of poverty and injustice and demands continuous improvement. It rejects the claims of any who in the name of 'progress,' of 'equality,' or even 'liberty,' impose their own dictatorship upon people. Who believe that progress thrives best under genuinely democratic institutions.

"Our concept of economic development, it will be seen, carries with it land and other reforms, where the people feel them needed, a living wage, fair and rising labor standards, full participation in the benefits accruing from increased wealth or income, the removal of discriminations based on race, color, nationality, religious belief, caste or sex. It also includes freedom of speech, freedom from want, the right of trial by jury, the right to work, the right to self-organization, the right to strike, the right to vote. It also includes training in democracy to enable all of the people to take active part in public affairs. With these rights go inherent responsibilities and duties."

Likewise, recognition is given to the part the free trade unions in the under-developed areas have done in fighting off communist and fascist infiltration, while striving to better the lot of their own members.

It is further pointed out that in this they have been aided with funds and advice from the United States trade unions and "the Advisory Board recommends the continued encouragement of the free labor unions in the under-developed areas."

The board likewise pays tribute to the International Labor Organization, which it points out that during the past decades has developed a number of conventions and recommendations for desirable labor standards especially framed for under-developed areas.

"The Advisory Board endorses these ILO fair labor standards as a guide for minimum labor standards in the under-developed areas."

If the program as recommended in the report is carried through, the United States and other friendly nations will have been strengthened against any possible aggression and for the building of a lasting peace.

Support the Red Cross Fund Drive generously!

HANOVER ELECTED

Albany, N. Y.—Harold C. Hanover, secretary-treasurer New York State Federation of Labor, was elected a member of the board of directors of the New York State Cerebral Palsy Association, first state body of this association to include labor representatives.

Peron Orders Trial Of 49 Railwaymen

Buenos Aires, Argentine.—Forty-nine railwaymen must stand trial on charges of taking part in "crimes against the state" during the nationwide strike.

The International Transport-workers Federation said that "as the final vindictive touch, their property has been attached to guarantee court costs and damage payments upon conviction. Peron takes the expected dictator's revenge."

Redmond Suspends New York Fireman

Washington.—President John P. Redmond of the AFL International Association of Fire Fighters suspended John P. Crane, New York City, IAFF vice president, "in view of testimony before the Kefauver Crime Committee."

Mr. Crane testified he had given cash gifts to former Mayor William O'Dwyer.

"Your actions have been detrimental to the best interests of our association and the fire fighters everywhere," Mr. Redmond telegraphed Mr. Crane.

Refusing President Redmond's demand for his resignation, Mr. Crane was suspended pending trial on charges looking to his removal from office.

GIVE WALSH DINNER

New York.—Leaders of the motion picture industry have singled out President Richard Walsh of the AFL International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes "for his inspiring work on behalf of the Will Rogers Memorial Hospital" of which he is vice president and a director. He was to be honored at a dinner April 10.

AFL WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE
Washington, D. C.
Published Tuesday With Supplement on Friday

Entered as second-class matter September 30, 1912, at the Post Office at Washington, D. C., under the Act of August 24, 1912. Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in Sec. 1108, Act of October 3, 1917, authorized July 11, 1918.

The A. F. of L. Weekly News Service gives news accounts and editorial interpretations of matters affecting labor occurring in the industrial, legislative, and judicial fields, and contains other information of benefit to the trade union movement.

Distributed Free to Bonafide Labor Press

Whole No. 2085 TUESDAY, MAR. 27, 1951 Vol. 41, No. 13

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